

SECRET

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1. After checking with the Director, informed Omar Burleson, Chairman of the House Administration Committee, of the CIA interest in maintaining the facilities of the Army Medical Library or its successor library in or near the District of Columbia. Mr. Burleson told me that the efforts on the part of certain House members to move the proposed National Library of Medicine to Chicago had failed. He did indicate, however, that the Administration should urge the House Commerce Committee to act favorably on this item during the present session. In the absence of passage of the pending bill, which has already passed the Senate, Mr. Burleson felt that the Chicago group would again attempt to exert every pressure in the next Congress to move the facility to Chicago.

I informed Colonel Rogers in the Department of Defense of my conversation, and he urged that we state our views to the House Commerce Committee. I indicated to the Chief Clerk of that Committee that we were interested in maintaining these facilities, which were a valuable asset in Washington. The Clerk requested me to ask Mr. Dulles to call the Chairman of the Committee and state his views as to the importance of passage of the bill providing for the National Library of Medicine. After checking with the Director, I informed the Department of Defense that Mr. Dulles did not wish to take a personal position on passage of the bill, for the reason that we were quite satisfied with the facilities now available at the Army Medical Library and the only real point of interest for us was in maintaining these or like facilities in this area. Inasmuch as the location of the facilities was not an issue before the House Commerce Committee, I indicated that we would not take any further action with that Committee.